

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1418 without my signature.

I wholeheartedly support setting the highest expectations of achievement for students, by encouraging everyone involved in our K-12 schools to work together in making California's education system the envy of the world. I believe the state should have high goals for education and should always be striving to develop better ways of delivering a quality education for all students. While it may be appropriate for California to adopt educational goals and principles, great care should be taken that the goals and principles are achievable both fiscally and programmatically.

This measure creates expectations that the state will deliver an educational system without providing specific programmatic changes needed to achieve the general goals and principles in the bill. While I agree with much of the intent expressed, I firmly believe government should deliver what it promises. To that end, I am more than willing to work collaboratively with members of the education community and the Legislature to revise specific educational programs to be more effective and find new ways to serve all students. However, while well meaning in its intent, I am concerned that this bill could create grounds for litigation against the state in the future for failing to meet its ambiguous goals.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger